(c) The expenditure on such road shows is met from the budget provided to the Govt. of India Tourist Offices abroad under the above scheme.

Investment of NRIs in Tourism Sector for North Eastern Region

135. SHRIMATI BASANTI SARMA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the steps being taken by Government to attract NRIs to make investment in tourism sector in the North Eastern Region;

(b) whether Government have formulated any policy in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN): (a) Government of India has formulated plans to attract NRI investment in the tourism sector, including the North Eastern Region. The Department of Tourism through its overseas offices in association with the Indian travel trade has proposed to undertake road shows in the major NRI markets to promote both tourism and investment in the tourism sector.

(b) and (c) Government of India has identified Tourism as a "High Priority" industry for foreign and private investment. To induce foreign investment and NRI investment upto 100% alongwith foreign collaboration in respect of Technical Consultancy Service, Franchise, Management Fee are under the automatic approval scheme where such proposals are cleared by RBI itself.